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the state of Nebraska, which has made sure that funding goes out to small communities especially for child abuse prevention activities. But in chairing one of the committees that I chaired on childcare, I spent one day of my life, an entire day of my life, talking about how close a dog dish should be to children in a child-care facility, because that's one of the things that we regulate. And at the end of that day I knew that I never wanted to spend another day doing that myself and I really questioned whether that is the best way that we impact children, by determining that distance rather than assuming that there are some kinds of things in terms of information and training that we can provide to the people who care for the children and that they can make the decisions and they can make decisions about what is best for the children and what is also best from them...for them from the standpoint of liability, because the other issue is that this is a business. LB 400 was considered last year by the Health and Human Services Committee and advanced and was...it's essentially the same this year and was advanced by the committee. It increases the required training hours for early childhood professionals caring for children in home-based or center-based programs from the current 12 hours per year to 22 hours per year. Training received for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid count towards the 22 hours. Some of the hours are required to be in a group setting. There are other states that have similar requirements. This legislation was based pretty much on Iowa, which...which has the same number...essentially the same number of hours. Nebraska is one of those states that has no precertification requirements for people who are going to take care of children. The legislation also establishes a three-tiered system of license for childcare and early childhood programs. One tier are programs that meet minimum licensing requirements. Another tier are programs that meet minimum licensing requirements, have a history of compliance and then meet additional quality criteria that would be determined in rules and regulations. The final tier and...is programs that not only meet licensing requirements and have a history of compliance, but are also accredited by a national accrediting organization. The reason that I have introduced this legislation...well, actually there are two reasons. Census data tells us that Nebraska has the highest number of children under the age of six in childcare. Over 70